

Hebrew

<https://pwsmith.github.io/multivaluation/dbcoord/>

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1 Overview

Language family:	Afro-Asiatic (Semitic)
Countries:	Israel
Number of speakers:	9 million
Agreement features:	gender, number, person
Attested word orders:	SV, VS ¹
Coordination types:	and, or

(The data shown here were elicited with a native speaker. Two more native speakers entered data via an online survey. Even though the verb forms showed some variation, all speakers showed the same patterns for number and gender. As for person, the online survey did not check for all combinations. Note that we tested agreement in past tense form as past tense forms show agreement in all feature)

2 Patterns for gender

2.1 Coordination with “and”

2.1.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	fem	masc
	fem	masc
fem	fem	masc
masc	masc	masc

Examples:

- (1) a. ha-gever ve-ha-isha ratsu
the-man and-the-woman ran.PL.MASC
‘The man and the woman were running.’
b. ha-isha ve-ha-gever ratsu
the-woman and-the-man ran.PL.MASC
‘The woman and the man were running.’

2.1.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	fem	masc
	fem	masc
fem	fem	masc
masc	masc	masc

Examples:

- (2) a. le-sham ratsu he-gever ve-ha-isha
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-man and-the-woman
'The man and the woman were running there.'
- b. le-sham ratsu ha-isha ve-ha-gever
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-woman and-the-man
'The woman and the man were running there.'

2.2 Coordination with “or”

2.2.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	fem	masc
fem	fem	masc
masc	masc	masc

Examples:

- (3) a. ha-gever o ha-isha ratsu
the-man or the-woman ran.PL.MASC
'The man or the woman were running.'
- b. ha-isha o ha-gever ratsu
the-woman or the-man ran.PL.MASC
'The woman or the man were running.'

2.2.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatches are resolved to masculine. (Note: Gender is not marked in 3rd person plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	fem	masc
fem	fem	masc
masc	masc	masc

Examples:

- (4) a. le-sham ratsu he-gever o ha-isha
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-man or the-woman
'The man or the woman were running there.'
- b. le-sham ratsu ha-isha o ha-gever
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-woman or the-man
'The woman or the man were running there.'

3 Patterns for number

3.1 Coordination with “and”

3.1.1 SV order

Pattern: There is plural marking throughout. (According to three speakers.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (5) ha-jeled ve-ha-gever ratsu
the-boy and-the-man ran.PL.MASC
‘The boy and the man were running.’
- (6) a. ha-jeladim ve-ha-gever ratsu
the-boys and-the-man ran.PL.MASC
‘The boys and the man were running.’
b. ha-jeled ve-ha-gvarim ratsu
the-boy and-the-men ran.PL.MASC
‘The boy and the men were running.’

3.1.2 VS order

Pattern: There is plural marking throughout.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (7) le-sham ratsu ha-jeled ve-ha-gever
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-boy and-the-man
‘The boy and the man were running there.’
- (8) a. le-sham ratsu ha-jeladim ve-ha-gever
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-boys and-the-man
‘The boys and the man were running there.’
b. le-sham ratsu ha-jeled ve-ha-gvarim
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-boy and-the-men
‘The boy and the men were running there.’

3.2 Coordination with “or”

3.2.1 SV order

Pattern: With two singular conjuncts, plural marking on the verb is fine, while singular marking is only possible if both conjuncts are focussed. If the two conjuncts mismatch in number,

number is resolved to plural.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl/sg	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (9) a. ha-jeled o ha-gever ratsu
the-boy or the-man ran.PL.MASC
'The boy or the man were running.'
- b. ha-JELED o ha-GEVER rats
the-boy or the-man ran.SG.MASC
'The boy or the man were running.'
- (10) a. ha-jeladim o ha-gever ratsu
the-boys or the-man ran.PL.MASC
'The boys or the man were running.'
- b. ha-jeled o ha-gvarim ratsu
the-boy or the-men ran.PL.MASC
'The boy or the men were running.'

3.2.2 VS order

Pattern: With two singular conjuncts, plural marking or singular marking on the verb is fine. If the two conjuncts mismatch in number, number is resolved to plural.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl/sg	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (11) le-sham ratsu/rats ha-jeled o ha-gever
to-there ran.PL.MASC/ran.SG.MASC the-boy or the-man
'The boy or the man were running there.'
- (12) a. le-sham ratsu ha-jeladim o ha-gever
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-boys or the-man
'The boys or the man were running there.'
- b. le-sham ratsu ha-jeled o ha-gvarim
to-there ran.PL.MASC the-boy or the-men
'The boy or the men were running there.'

4 Patterns for person

4.1 Coordination with “and”

4.1.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		2pl
3	1pl	2pl	

Examples:

- (13) a. ani ve-ata ratsnu
I and-you.MASC ran.1PL
'I and you ran.'
- b. ata ve-ani ratsnu
you.MASC and-I ran.1PL
'You and I ran.'
- c. ani ve-hu ratsnu
I and-he ran.1PL
'I and he ran.'
- d. hu ve-ani ratsnu
he and-I ran.1PL
'He and I ran.'
- e. ata ve-hu ratstem
you.MASC and-he ran.2PL
'You and he ran.'
- f. hu ve-ata ratstem
he and-you.MASC ran.2PL
'He and you ran.'

4.1.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.) If the first conjunct is 3rd person, the result is ineffable.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		2pl
3	ineff	ineff	

Examples:

- (14) a. le-sham ratsnu ani ve-ata
to-there ran.1PL I and-you.MASC
'I and you were running there.'

- b. le-sham ratsnu ata ve-ani
to-there ran.1PL you.MASC and-I
'You and I were running there.'
- c. le-sham ratsnu ani ve-hu
to-there ran.1PL I and-he
'I and he were running there.'
- d. *le-sham ratsnu hu ve-ani
to-there ran.1PL he and-I
'He and I were running there.'
- e. *le-sham ratstem hu ve-ata
to-there ran.2PL he and-you.MASC
'He and you were running there.'
- f. le-sham ratstem ata ve-hu
to-there ran.2PL you.MASC and-he
'You and he were running there.'

4.2 Coordination with “or”

4.2.1 SV order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		2pl
3	1pl	2pl	

Examples:

- (15) a. ani o ata ratsnu
I or you.MASC ran.1PL
'I or you ran.'
- b. ata o ani ratsnu
you.MASC or I ran.1PL
'You or I ran.'
- c. ani o hu ratsnu
I or he ran.1PL
'I or he ran.'
- d. hu o ani ratsnu
he or I ran.1PL
'He or I ran.'
- e. ata o hu ratstem
you.MASC or he ran.2PL
'You or he ran.'
- f. hu o ata ratstem
he or you.MASC ran.2PL
'He or you ran.'

4.2.2 VS order

Pattern: Mismatching person is resolved following the hierarchy 1 > 2 > 3. (Number is resolved to plural.) If one of the conjuncts is 3rd person, the result is ineffable.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	ineff
2	1pl		ineff
3	ineff	ineff	

Examples:

- (16)
- le-sham ratsnu ani o ata
to-there ran.1PL I or you.MASC
'I or you were running there.'
 - le-sham ratsnu ata o ani
to-there ran.1PL you.MASC or I
'You or I were running there.'
 - *le-sham ratsnu ani o hu
to-there ran.1PL I or he
'I or he were running there.'
 - *le-sham ratsnu hu o ani
to-there ran.1PL he or I
'He or I were running there.'
 - *le-sham ratstem hu o ata
to-there ran.2PL he or you.MASC
'He or you were running there.'
 - *le-sham ratstem ata o hu
to-there ran.2PL you.MASC or he
'You or he were running there.'